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THE COMIC READER™

Number 140
February 1977

OUR FRONT COVER: Mike Nasser, currently working on some WONDER WOMAN stories, took the time to do a nice portrait of TV's WW, Lynda Carter. Meanwhile, on OUR BACK COVER: New ALL STAR art team Joe Staton and Bob Layton whipped up a group shot of the current JSA line-up. For both of the covers we say thanks! [By the way, we hope to be doing double Marvel covers as soon as we get some drawings! No bias is to be inferred!] Covers © 1977 DC Comics Inc. [Special credit should be given to publisher Jerry Sinkovec for having the time and patience to do the color seps on the covers and pages 24-25! MT]

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The COMIC READER
February 1977
Volume 1, Number 140

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DC News

We've come to expect a new title a month from DC -- and this month's revival is MISTER MIRACLE, beginning with #19, out in June, by Story Editor Denny O'Neil and writer Steve Englehart. It'll be seven times a year.

Denny O'Neil is switching Story Editorship on a few books. Jack C. Harris is swapping Denny THE WARLORD and STARFIRE for WORLD'S FINEST as of #247 (they co-edited #246). Denny is also ceding Story Editorship of THE SUPERMAN FAMILY to Superman Family expert E. Nelson Bridwell.

ELECTRIFYING FIRST ISSUE!
FROM THE MATTER-ZONE— THROUGH THE ZERO-ZONE— TO THE EARTH-ZONE COMES...
30¢
NO. 1
JULY
THE SHADE CHANGING man
THE FULL POWER OF THE 8-VEST IS EMBODIED—AND ALTHOUGH IT COULD DESTROY EVERYTHING I KNOW I'D USE IT TO SAVE MY LIFE!

The first issue of SUPERBOY (#231) to be 48 pages for 50¢ will be legally changed to SUPERBOY AND THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES. The end of 1977 will also see a $2.00 tabloid LEGION book.

This year another all-new tabloid will feature SUPERMAN VS. WONDER WOMAN, set in WWII on Earth II. It will be by Gerry Conway and Jose Garcia-Lopez.

The summer $1.00 anthology book will feature, aside from the already mentioned story meant for KOBRA #8 with Batman vs. Kobra, and the Green Lantern, Flash (by Marty Pasko) and Aquaman stories, a new Atom adventure. The Atom was selected on the basis of a poll conducted on the DC Hotline

in which DC staffers selected 30 to 40 callers at random and asked them which DC hero without a book of his own they would like to see in the $1.00 book. DC plans more polls like this in the future.

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Bob Layton is inking the Arvell Jones LEGION story in the DC SPECIAL Earth Shattering Disaster issue.

The new three-part ENEMY ACE sequence is being written by Bob Kanigher and drawn by Ed Davis for use in either MEN OF WAR or UNKNOWN SOLDIER.

Dr. Strangeglove and the Brain Children will appear in METAL MEN.

John Albano will be writing some JIMMY OLSEN stories for THE SUPERMAN FAMILY.

David Michelinie will be writing the new lead feature in MEN OF WAR which we cannot reveal at this time.

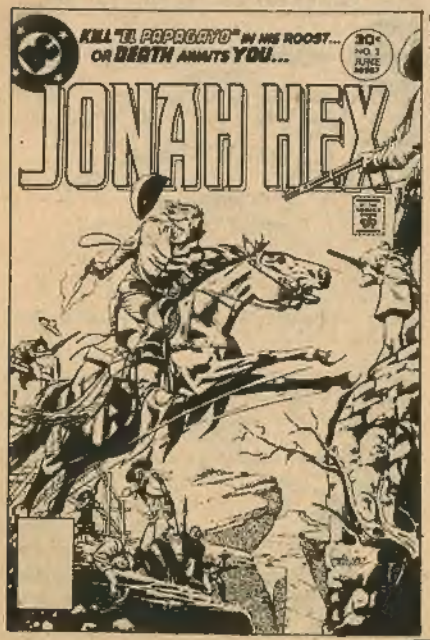
The third $1.00 HOUSE OF MYSTERY issue will feature an intro by Abel drawn by Howie Chaykin. Also featured will be a story by Gil Kane, plus a story written and drawn by Gray Morrow is being prepared for a future issue.

Berni Wrightson is doing a cover for SECRETS OF HAUNTED HOUSE.

Bob Toomey is the new regular WELCOME BACK, KOTTER scripter.

Gray Morrow has done the cover for HOUSE OF SECRETS #146 as well as WONDER WOMAN #233.

Dick Dillin and Jack Abel will henceforth be the cover art team for JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA.



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Dan Adkins, Ramona Fradon and Frank McLaughlin have each signed exclusive contracts with DC. Adkins will be permanent inker on Curt Swan's SUPERMAN stories as well as inking Don Newton's NEW GODS and the "Disaster" AQUAMAN story in DC SPECIAL. Fradon will continue on SUPER FRIENDS (DC SUPER STARS #19, on sale in December 1977, will be a SUPER FRIENDS annual) and PLASTIC MAN. McLaughlin will continue to ink JUSTICE LEAGUE and THE FLASH.

The $1.00 SUPERMAN issue will be titled SUPERMAN ANNUAL #9. #8 appeared in 1964.

David V. Reed has written a four-part BATMAN in which super-villains attempt to prove that they killed the Caped Crusader. The first issue features Catwoman, the second The Riddler.

Speaking of Batman, Bob Rozakis has written a story in which a new villain called The Quakemaster destroys the Batmobile and the Batcave -- for real. Steve Englehart picks up the gauntlet in DETECTIVE COMICS #470 wherein he introduces the new Batcave. Englehart will continue to script DETECTIVE through at least the end of the '77 dated issues.

Irv Novick has pencilled a ROBIN story for THE BATMAN FAMILY which is now eight times a year.

DC SUPER-STARS #15, the Battle Stars issue, features a 30 page team-up of Sgt. Rock, The Unknown Soldier and Mademoiselle Marie.

Jack C. Harris is taking over the scripting of STARFIRE as of #8, which is why he gave up the editing. He's also written a KARATE KID fill-in. Al Milgrom, who's now doing some covers for DC, did the cover for KARATE KID #9 and also UNKNOWN SOLDIER #206. In that issue, the Unknown Soldier battles a new villain called The Black Knight.

Frank McLaughlin has been inundated with work, so Vince Colletta and Joe Giella are pitching in to ink an issue each of THE FLASH.

Future developments for the JSA: ALL STAR #67 will include the team's battle against The Underlord, a creature king from the center of the earth as well as the beginning of their problems with Police Commissioner Bruce Wayne; DC SPECIAL #29, featuring the origin of the Justice Society, will feature charter members Superman, Batman, Spectre, Sandman, Atom, Dr. Fate, Hourman, Green Lantern, Flash and Hawkman tackling Hitler, the Nazi army, the Valkyries, plus cameo appearances by FDR and William (Intrepid) Stephenson. Included are origins of each member. ALL STAR #68 features a showdown with the Psycho Pirate and the JSA becoming outlaws! JUSTICE LEAGUE #147 and 148 pits the JLA, JSA and the Legion of Super-Heroes against Mordru and the three demons from JLA #11. Meanwhile, Wally Wood is working on a number of new projects which he may write as well as draw.

The Harlequin is Two-Face's daughter and The Bumblebee is black. Both heroines join the TEEN TITANS in #48.

RAGMAN #5 has been delayed from last month's schedule to the March schedule. Joe Kubert will do the complete artwork on both stories.

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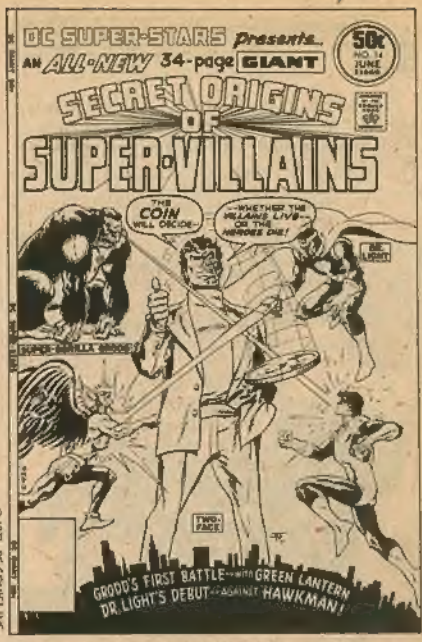
DC SUPER-STARS Presents...
AN ALL-NEW 34-page GIANT
50¢
SECRET ORIGINS OF SUPER-VILLAINS
THIS COIN WILL DECIDE...
...WHETHER THE VILLAINS LIVE—OR THE HEROES DIE!
GRODD'S FIRST BATTLE... WITH GREEN LANTERN
DR. LIGHT'S DEBUT... AGAINST HAWKMAN!
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Marvel News

Contrary to what you may have read elsewhere, the contracts for the Edgar Rice Burroughs licenses have been signed. As the agreement now stands, Roy Thomas and John Buscema will only have to produce one issue of TARZAN each month as opposed to four. [The overseas publishers will probably utilize the material prepared by the Mark Evanier staff for the remaining issues.] Thomas and Buscema will be using their spare time to get ahead on CONAN before beginning any new projects. Dave Cockrum inked the first Marv Wolfman-Gil Kane JOHN CARTER story to set the style, after which Rudy Nebres will take over as inker.

DOCTOR STRANGE will be written by Jim Starlin, laid out by Al Milgrom, and finished by the ubiquitous Rudy Nebres.

Marvel is now paying reprint royalties.

KID COLT OUTLAW has been made bi-monthly once more.

MARVEL TALES #81 will contain a special treat -- the first appearance in color of the two sample weeks of the SPIDER-MAN newspaper strip done six years ago.

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The KISS comic book will be a color comic, but will be in black and white size. Steve Gerber is writing and Alan Weiss is the artist. Kiss will also guest-star in HOWARD THE DUCK.

John David Warner scripted THE DEFENDERS #47. Ed Hannigan is doing the art for THE DEFENDERS ANNUAL. Hellcat will temporarily replace Doctor Strange in the team.

Chris Claremont is doing a fill-in issue of THE AVENGERS that will be drawn by George Tuska. The Grim Reaper and Ultron are slated for reappearances in the book. George Perez will return to doing full pencils as of AVENGERS #160. He'll be doing similar chores for FANTASTIC FOUR with #184.

Steve Gerber will return to the scripting of OMEGA THE UNKNOWN with #9, which brings back Foolkiller.

The third issue of WHAT IF? will be the Jim Shooter-Gil Kane IRON AVENGERS story.

A team-up that should look pretty strange will occur when Alex Nino takes over as regular inker of Lee Elias' POWER MAN pencils.

New inkers: Bob Layton will ink X-MEN with #105, Mike Esposito will ink THE CHAMPIONS and Dan Green will ink GHOST RIDER.

The new art team on KULL THE DESTROYER is Ernie Chan and Alfredo Alcala.

Jim Starlin is plotting and laying out an issue of THE RAMPAGING HULK which will be finished by Alex Nino.

The first issues of THOR that were laid out by Walt Simonson will feature the return of The Enchantress and The Executioner. That's #260-61.

Rich Buckler may do some art for MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE. Other upcoming artists on MTIO include Ernie Chan and Steve Leialoha in separate issues.

Doug Moench, Herb Trimpe and Don Adkins will be doing GODZILLA.

The MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE ANNUAL will be laid out by Jim Starlin; either he or Mary Wolfman will script.

Val Mayerik may do the art on the HOWARD THE DUCK ANNUAL.

The Bi-Beast is returning to appear in THE INCREDIBLE HULK. Al Milgrom is drawing a fill-in issue.

The Punisher and The Hit Man have a showdown in THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN.

Kropotkin The Great is slated to appear as a supporting character in THE INCREDIBLE HULK.

There will be a fourth origins book in the Simon and Schuster series. Entitled THE SUPER-LADIES, this one will feature the Black Widow, Invisible Girl, etc.

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Planned Parenthood and Marvel Comics have combined to do a special 35¢ issue of SPIDER-MAN in which Spidey enlightens misinformed teens about "pregnancy, contraception, homosexuality, masturbation and venereal disease." (Quite a difference from SPIDEY SUPER STORIES, eh?) We believe it may be available from your local Planned Parenthood office.

FOOM #16 will feature a wraparound cover by Marie Severin featuring all 96 members of the Marvel Bullpen. The issue will also contain an interview with Marie. FOOM #17 will contain a Stan Lee interview in the entire issue.

Warren Coming Comics

EERIE No. 82, April. This issue features "Rook" -- a time travel-cowboy-science fiction story by Bill DuBay and Luis Bermejo; A Tombspawn tale called "Changing Chaucers In Midstream" by Gerry Boudreau Carmine Infantino and Gonzalo Mayo; A Scalliwag story called "Castle Of The Assassin" by Budd Lewis and Jose Ortiz; "Years And Mind Forever" by Bruce Jones and Richard Corben; and "A Deepening Tomb" by Lewis and Leopoldo Sanchez. The cover is by Sanjulian. [2/8]

FAMOUS MONSTERS OF FILMLAND No. 133, April. [2/3]

VAMPIRELLA No. 59, April. Contents for this one are: Vampi in "Pendragon's Last Vow" by Bill DuBay and Jose Gonzalez; "Changes" by Roger McKenzie and Leopoldo Duranona; "The Funeral Day" by McKenzie and Jose Ortiz; "Force Feed" is by Cary Bates and Leo Sanchez; "The Beast Is Yet To Come" is by Nick Cuti, Carmine Infantino and Alex Nino; "The Plot's The Thing" is by McKenzie and Martin Salvador; and "The Last Angel" is by Bill DuBay and Esteban Maroto. The cover is by Enrich. [2/10]

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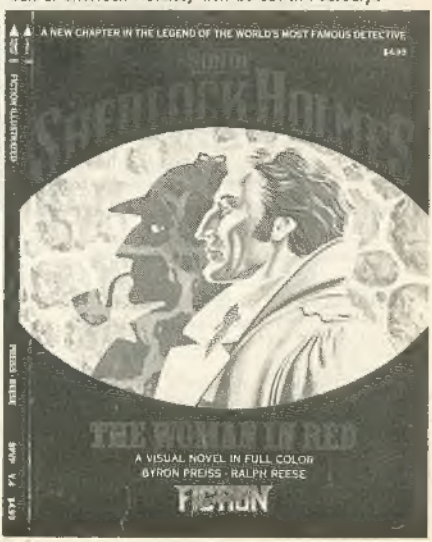
Visual Publications

FICTION ILLUSTRATED #5, featuring the Son of Sherlock Holmes, will be out in February.


A NEW CHAPTER IN THE LEGEND OF THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS DETECTIVE
$4.95
SON OF SHERLOCK HOLMES
THE MONSTER RED
A VISUAL NOVEL IN FULL COLOR
BYRON PREISS · RALPH REESE
FICTION

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Continuity Associates

Joe Brozowski is doing a story for the Western STARSTREAM series... Mike Nasser is drawing WONDER WOMAN #232... Continuity has done Animatics for National Rent-A-Car... Mike Nasser designed the logo for the revived CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN... Mike Hinge has done a cover for ANALOG... Continuity is doing the art for the new Peter Pan record sets featuring WONDER WOMAN and KOJAK... Mego toys has released a Wayne Foundation model with artwork done by Continuity... CHERI Magazine will print a Frank Cirrocco drawn story called "Sylph"... Dick Giordano is pencilling a CONAN story... And plans call for Neal Adams to draw the covers of the next five or six of each of the DC $1.00 books.

ABOVE: Neal Adams' pencil rough for the upcoming movie poster for DEATH PROMISE, due out sometime in 1977.

Media News

Deagh feasgar to all the Celts in the audience. Here we go again... Cinema-Sound Ltd., in association with the Chicago Tribune-New York News Syndicate, is producing six radio drama series based upon the following comic strips: DICK TRACY, BRENDA STARR, TERRY AND THE PIRATES, RICK O'SHAY, COUNTERSPY and CRIME DOCTOR. I must confess that I've never heard of the latter two. The shows will be syndicated as one series, called SUPER SIX ADVENTURE STRIPS, and they will alternate each week... DOONESBURY is being readied as an animated special for NBC this spring... Speaking of NBC, they've bought the

1977 Season Schedule- Revised

7:30 8:00 8:30 9:00 9:30 10:00 10:30
MONDAY
(Local) The Captain And Tennille Mary Hartman Tandoor And Family ABC
(Local) The Jeffersons Rosetta Lapse Maude All's Fair The Andros Targets CBS
(Local) Little House On The Prairie NBC Monday Night At The Movies NBC
TUESDAY
(Local) Happy Days Laverne & Shirley Sixth Man - Part II Family ABC
(Local) What's Who M*A*S*H One Day At A Time Kojak CBS
(Local) Bar Bar Black Sheep Police Woman Police Story NBC
WEDNESDAY
(Local) The Bionic Woman Barnaby Charlie's Angels ABC
(Local) Good Times The Jacksons CBS Wednesday Night Movie CBS
(Local) Grizzly Adams Switch's Court CPO Sharky Highcliffe NBC
THURSDAY
(Local) Welcome Back, Kotter What's Happening Barney Miller Tony Randall Streets Of San Francisco ABC
(Local) The Waltons Hawaii Five-O Barnaby Jones CBS
(Local) Fantastic Journey Chrissy, M.D. Ben Stiller NBC
FRIDAY
(Local) Dance Fever ABC Friday Night Movie ABC
(Local) Code 8 Sonny And Cher Executive Suite CBS
(Local) Sanford And Son Chico & The Man The Rockford Files Kingston NBC
SATURDAY
(Local) Mrs. Bromley's Beauties Fish Brady And Hatch Dog And Cat ABC
(Local) Mary Tyler Moore Bob Newhart All In The Family Alice Carol Burnett CBS
(Local) Emergency NBC Saturday Night At The Movies NBC
SUNDAY
7:00 7:30 8:00 8:30 9:00 9:30 10:00 10:30
Nanny, Dear Nanny, Brady Brady Bunch Variety Hour The Million Dollar Man ABC Sunday Night Movie ABC
60 Minutes Rhoda Phyllis Switch Delvecchio CBS
World Of Disney Sunday Mystery Movie (McCloud, Columbo, McMillan) The Big Event NBC

Idea for a show called GERZORNINPLATZ, described as "a contemporary and zany view of the Sunday funnies"... Equity, the British actors' union, has warned the Salkinds that "a fair balance of British casting" would be demanded in the production of the SUPERMAN film, if they want to film in Britain. The Union claims the ten key actors would be American, and this could not be tolerated in a British studio. If it becomes impossible to find the right British actors for the roles and the "Americanization" required by the script could not be achieved, then a reconsideration of the whole situation would have to be made, including the possibility of pulling out of Britain. Quite obviously, they can't film SUPERMAN in the U.S. -- union labor costs too much here -- but seeing Perry White speak with an English accent would be a bit much. Maybe they can film in Antarctica -- you know, the Fortress of Solitude?... Guy Hamilton won't be the director either, I've read... For your edification (and the sake of history) I'm presenting the new second season TV schedule. The only real possibilities I can see at the moment are both NBC shows: NIGHTMARE, an anthology horror series, and FANTASTIC JOURNEY, a science fiction series. I have no idea who's producing them, and that's always very crucial. I mean, Irwin Allen could be producer of FJ and Quinn Martin producer of NIGHTMARE (that WOULD be a nightmare)... LOGAN'S RUN is trying to be a TV series for next season by MGM. Bill Nolan and Saul David are doing the pilot... Another pilot is SOONER THAN YOU THINK, a science fiction comedy, i.e., a sitcom set in the future. Playboy TV is doing that, as well as THE STUPID SHOW, a show for our time... LAUGH-IN is being revived as a special or two, sans Dan Rowan and Dick Martin, who sold their share of the title. They plan to get as many of the original cast back as possible... Speaking of specials, Gene Roddenberry's SPECTRE is just in the pilot stage right now. The show concerns the accidental unearthing of a mythological demon. Paul McCartney and Wings will appear in it... THE INCREDIBLE SHRINKING MAN (an euphonium) is being remade, Doug Kenney, former NatLamp editor who sold his part in the magazine for big bucks, has written NATIONAL LAMPOON'S ANIMAL HOUSE, a film. And another science fiction runaway vehicle movie is being done, BATTLE TRUCK, in which the menace is a giant Mac truck. The latter film is produced by Mark Forstater, who produced MONTY PYTHON & THE HOLY GRAIL... Speaking of which, seven-eighths of Monty Python, The Goodies, the Beyond The Fringe people and Peter Cook all appear on an English album, A POKE IN THE EYE (WITH A SHARP STICK), a benefit show done for Amnesty International. Also, regarding the I'M SORRY, I'LL READ THAT AGAIN radio show, David Finger tells me that Eric Idle wrote at least one of their scripts and that both Tim Brooke-Tyler and Bill Oday wrote and acted in it. And I forgot to mention it last time, but when they rerun the George Harrison segment of SATURDAY NIGHT, watch for Eric Idle's film of George's CRACKERBOX PALACE and tell me how many PYTHON people make cameo appearances in the midst of all those midgets and freaks. I THINK there were five, maybe more.

- Rona Blabbit

Western News

Western Publishing has re-released its 1968 KING KONG movie special in a large $1, 13 x 10 inch format. This 64 page adaptation of the original

Kong movie was drawn by Alberto Giolitti, and the cover is/was by George Wilson. Look for this item in a cardboard rack with "Giant Ape" coloring books and puzzle books.

Western has scheduled several more in their "Limpbound Special" series, of which the STAR TREK ENTERPRISE LOGS #1 and 2, and the RIPLEY'S edition were a part. Scheduled for April release is STAR TREK #3; out in July will be STAR TREK #4 and WALT DISNEY CHRISTMAS SPECIAL (Christmas in July?); and September will have a MICKEY MOUSE CLUB edition. Each will contain 224 pages and be 95% reprint.

Western has signed an agreement with Marvel to distribute Marvel comics in Western's plastic bag series which is apparently doing quite well. The two companies will not be mixed in the bags. We believe that those Marvels to appear in bags will have slightly different covers in that a diamond will cover the space that currently houses the cover date and Curtis company symbol. The cost of three 30¢ comics will be 79¢.

TCR Message

Question: Would you pay 75¢ for color covers every month? We'd like to know! J & M

Gold Key News

GOLD KEY SPOTLIGHT has been increased to seven issues for 1977. In addition to this month's issue, #6 will be out in April and will feature DAGAR THE INVINCIBLE, #7 will be out in May and will feature WACKY WITCH AND GRETA GHOST, #8 will be out in June and will feature DOCTOR SPEKTOR, #9 is on July's schedule and stars TRAGG AND THE SKY GODS, and #10 will be out in August and will feature O.G. WHIZ. In each case, the material is new and generally was originally intended to run as regular issues until they were cancelled.

Coming Comics

Walt Disney DONALD DUCK No. 182, April. Chiefly new stuff. [2/3]

Walt Disney MICKEY MOUSE No. 170. April. This issue is reprinted from old plates. [2/3]

THE INSPECTOR No. 14, April. New Inspector Clouseau adventures. [2/3]

YOSEMITE SAM AND BUGS BUNNY No. 43, April. New stories. [2/3]

TOM AND JERRY No. 293, April. Reprints. [2/3]

Walt Disney HUEY, DEWEY AND LOUIE No. 43, April. New Woodchuck adventures. [2/3]

Walt Disney UNCLE SCROOGE No. 139, April. Carl Barks reprints. [2/10]

BUGS BUNNY No. 183, April. Mostly new stories. [2/10]

THE PINK PANTHER No. 42, April. All new stories drawn by Warren Tufts. [2/10]

LOONEY TUNES No. 13, April. All new except for a page. [2/10]

BORIS KARLOFF TALES OF MYSTERY No. 74, April. New stories. [2/10]

Walt Disney BEAGLE BOYS No. 34, April. New stories. [2/10]

FAT ALBERT AND THE COSBY KIDS No. 18, April. New stories. [2/10]

TWEETY AND SYLVESTER No. 68, April. New stories. [2/17]

WALT DISNEY'S COMICS AND STORIES No. 439, April. Half is new and half is reprinted. [2/17]

LITTLE MONSTERS No. 39, April. New stuff save for one page. [2/17]

UNDERDOG No. 12, April. New adventures. [2/17]

DAFFY DUCK No. 107, April. New stories and a reprinted page. [2/17]

RIPLEY'S BELIEVE IT OR NOT! No. 69, April. New stories, believe it or not. [2/17]

GOLD KEY SPOTLIGHT No. 5, May. This issue features new ADVENTURES OF CRACKY. [2/17]

Walt Disney WINNIE THE POOH No. 2, May. Brand new stories of Edward the Bear. [2/17]

Et Al

Time for a little plugeroo now. I know that in recent months we've devoted very little space to fan or non-professional activities in these pages, and I continually resolve to rectify that, but advertising (which we desperately need) generally has taken up all the extra space. My 1977 resolution is to try to keep up with it as much as we should.

To show HOW far behind we are, last July Johnny Achziger sent us a couple of copies of a beautiful poster he has published by Boris Vallejo called THE GREEN PRINCESS. Since this is so long after the fact, I would suggest you write Johnny before ordering (he had more than one series of the poster) although you could send him the $3.00 for the regular edition which he probably still has. His address is: The Mylos Press, P.O. Box 5246, Spokane WA 99205. The poster is in full color and measures 17" x 22". (Sorry this took so long, Johnny.)

I would also like to plug a delightful fanzine by some friends of mine called BUMBAZINE. This is a genuinely funny semi-funny animal magazine with material by Chuck Fiala, Jim Engel and Alan Jim Hanley. Fiala and Engel do Chuck Jones-inspired funny animal stuff (LACKLUSTER LIZARD, JOE CROW) and Hanley's THUG THE UNKINDLY is reprinted from THE BUYER'S GUIDE in its entirety. The price is $1.00 and you can order it either from my friend Alan James Hanley (Cinder Lane, Rt. 2, Camp Douglas, WI 54618, or my other friend Chuck Fiala, 6250 W. 84th Street, Burbank, IL 60459. (I'm sorry this one took this long, too, guys.)

TCR Mailboat

MILTON SUBOTSKY, London, England (December 22, 1976): I dropped my option on film rights to THE INCREDIBLE HULK, but I'm going to New York next week and hope to see Stan Lee and try to get another one. I'm also seeing Jim Warren to try to work out a deal for film rights to stories from CREEPY and EERIE. We nearly had one, but got bogged down on details.

(Thanks for the note, Mr. Subotsky, and I hope you can keep us posted on developments. MT)

JOSEPH VIGLIETTA, 1365 Brooklyn Blvd., Bay Shore, NY 11706: Re. Director Phil Kaufman [new director of the STAR TREK film], THE WHITE DAWN was about three men stranded in the Arctic who had to learn to survive with the Eskimos. It starred Warren Oates. He also directed THE GREAT NORTHFIELD MINNESOTA RAID, a film about the Younger Brothers which starred Cliff Robertson, plus a lesser known Jon Voight film, FEARLESS FRANK (?) (1970). Only WHITE DAWN received good local reviews, but it didn't do too well at the box office.

Does anybody know how TARZAN, LORD OF THE JUNGLE (the CBS Saturday morning cartoon) is doing in the ratings?

(Maybe somebody who gets VARIETY has seen the ratings (David? Rona?), but I haven't. Thanks for the Kaufman rundown; I had heard of the G.N.M.R. -- it's been on TV -- but I haven't seen it.

By the way, the new SUPERMAN director is Richard Donner, who directed THE OMEN most recently. MT)

RANDY CRAWFORD, Minden, WV: Why hasn't Gold Key placed the Universal Product Code symbols on the covers of the comic books yet? Does their not using the symbol have anything to do with the law passed in California in 1975 banning the UPC symbols at a future date from appearing on any merchandise sold in the state of California? I've wondered, since Gold Key has west coast offices in California (and I suppose good distribution), they might not be putting the symbols on their books to avoid a lot of headaches when the law goes into effect. What will the other companies using the symbols do when the law takes effect?

In any event, since the U.P.C. symbols don't have to be legally used anyway, comic fans should complain loud and hard for their removal from comic book covers. Not only do the symbols deface the covers, they also limit an artist's options in laying out the cover design.

(I think we're all agreed that the UPC symbols are ugly, but I think they're here to stay on the comics they're already on. Sometime in the future, retail outlets will be using the UPC scanners, and if the product doesn't have the symbol, that outlet may be closed to that product. At least four of today's comic publishers feel that they can't risk that, so they use the symbols. Warren and Gold Key haven't succumbed to that idea as yet.

As far as the California law goes, I haven't really seen any evidence that that law actually passed the legislature. I remember reading about it, but, as is the wont of most national wire services, they probably didn't mention that it did or didn't, only that it had been proposed. In any case, I doubt that it has -- simply because the record industry, chiefly based in California, is discussing placement of the UPC symbol on album jackets and single sleeves. In either case, I doubt that there will be two printings as that is simply too expensive, and neither would want to risk being outlawed in California. Maybe somebody can tell us for sure if the thing is law. MT)

KIM "HOWARD" JOHNSON, 1411 Cherokee Lane, Ottawa, IL 61350: Just a little Monty Python news to pass on in TCR if you'd like. I got a letter from Terry Jones the other day. He says that DR. FEGG'S

NASTY BOOK OF KNOWLEDGE (which was written by Jones and Michael Palin) hasn't had much publicity and isn't selling as well as it might be, and urges everyone to go out and buy several copies.

Also, apparently he doesn't have too much to do with JABBERWOCKY. He said, "JABBERWOCKY is great -- I saw a rough-cut last Friday and it's a knockout -- I'd say it is a better film (as a film) than GRAIL even though it's not such a funny film -- it's a whole different sort of thing. But it is great."

If there's anything there you want to use, feel free.

(We're overjoyed to print any missive from the famed nude organist. Keep 'em coming. You weed. MT)

JEFF GELB, 4321 Cass Street #3, San Diego, CA 92109. TCR keeps getting better and better. Your new logos for the companies in the news section are attractive. Nice graphics throughout, in fact. However! ...

I must disagree with your media news reporter being allowed to intersperse his/her opinions with news facts. After all, you don't add your opinions in your comic book news section. That's why I read TCR -- I want factual news, not editorial opinion mixed with current news.

My exact point of disagreement with "Rona" is in his/her own impressions of the new TV shows. I disagreed with a lot of what he/she said, but more importantly, he felt that his MEDIA NEWS column gave him a forum for his/her own feelings, which I strongly feel it should not. Let him/her/it (what is this pseudonym nonsense anyway?) give us all of the Hollywood news and even rumors available and pertinent, but let's please keep personal taste out of the column. Please?

Also, if Rona gets his news from VARIETY regarding film sequels, I think he/she/etc. misunderstood the ad campaign for CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND. I have a subscription to VARIETY and have read no plans whatsoever of a sequel to the movie. Again, let's stick to the facts, please.

Thanks for listening to these comments -- I intend them as constructive, not vindictive criticism, and hope you consider them as such.

(I do, of course. And I'm not a bit surprised by your comments. It's amazing to me that you were the only one thus far to write in about the column's editorial stance. Let me explain my feeling about it.

When Rona suggested we start a MEDIA NEWS column and that she would write it, I assumed it would be a straight news thing like the rest of TCR. It didn't work out that way for two reasons: first, since Rona doesn't do any actual investigative reporting besides reading, she felt sort of silly just repeating stuff she read, and decided to interject her personal opinions; secondly, she decided to adopt a persona that reflected her amused attitude toward movies and TV, which surely wouldn't work with straight items. Originally, it was intended that the column be devoted to comics-related media tie-ins (the Wonder Woman TV show, the various films), but other things kept creeping in until I just said put in what's interesting. So that's what the criterion for content is.

As far as your desire for factual news about TV and films goes, you said it yourself: You get VARIETY. Do you really need to read it twice? I'll have to ask Rona where she got that bit about CLOSE ENCOUNTERS II. I know she reads VARIETY.

And Rona is called Rona because that's what Rona wants. And what Rona wants, Rona gets. MT)

Comment

I anticipated the return of the HOWDY DOODY SHOW for a full six months after I heard it was being revived. As a child I watched Howdy and Dilly and the Flub-A-Dub daily, never missing an episode. I was quite young and most of my memories were vague, at best, but I had a clear idea of what the show was about and why I loved it.

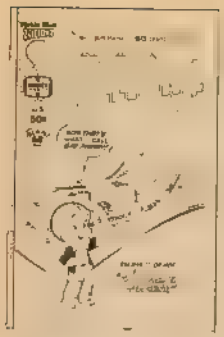
The new HOWDY DOODY SHOW came on and I was disappointed. There were new characters. Old characters were missing. Howdy had hair -- real hair, instead of the beloved painted on hair. And it didn't look right. Oh, the writing was okay, probably better than it used to be, and there was nothing wrong exactly (except the annoying use of videotape trickery). It just wasn't the same.

I bring up the subject only because the current M.O. at DC is to revive old series -- and not just any old series. These series were all, to some extent, fan favorites -- and, since most DC writers used to be DC fans, these were their favorites. The obvious intention, then, is to provoke a feeling of nostalgia within the comics buyer's mind as well as to capture their pennies (or, rather, dimes). You know -- "Boy that was a great comic! I wish they still published it..." and voila! It's back -- to everyone's ultimate chagrin.

A case in point -- probably not even on the drawing board as yet -- is the revival of SHOWCASE with THE DOOM PATROL. Okay, everybody loved SHOWCASE because it gave three-issue tryouts to new titles -- so, we're going to get three issue tryouts. But the titles are not new, they're old too. Okay. Nothing here says that that's necessarily a bad idea.

But, we are told, this new DOOM PATROL will be NEW. Since Messers. Boltinoff, Drake and Premiani killed off the old DP in #121, then the new DP cannot contain the old members, excepting Robotman, whose brain was encased in a virtually indestructable housing. But then, Robotman predates the DOOM PATROL by at least twenty years. So, in essence, all we're getting is a revival of the NAME.

Nostalgia is necessarily a conservative emotion. The whole idea is to desire that things be as they were, and that nothing be changed. In almost every case of revival since SHAZAM!, the editors have felt the need to change some basic and important facet of the series in order to make it work in today's market. In some cases (METAL MEN comes to mind) this was totally necessary, but in others (PLASTIC MAN, BLACKHAWK and ALL-STAR) it seemed not only unnecessary but almost disastorous. They almost make you wonder why they were revived at all.



What I'm getting at is simply this: Either revive a series because it was good, and try to follow in the pattern set by a title that was cancelled when its genre was not in vogue — or don't mess with my memories and begin a whole new series. An old title may be a sales draw for an issue or two, but I cannot be nostalgic about a title only. You can't have it both ways. – Mike Tiefenbacher

Harvey Coming Comics

RICHIE RICH VAULTS OF MYSTERY No. 16, May. [1/27]

CASPER'S GHOSTLAND No. 95, May. [1/27]

RICHIE RICH ZILLIONZ No. 3, May. 64 pages for 50¢. [1/27]

RICHIE RICH GEMS No. 17, May. [2/3]

HOT STUFF No. 140, May. [2/3]

SUPERICHIE No. 9, May. 48 pages for 40¢. [2/3]

RICHIE RICH MONEY WORLD No. 29, May. [2/10]

SAD SACK No. 256, May. [2/10]

RICHIE RICH SUCCESS No. 74, May. 48 pages for 40¢. [2/10]

RICHIE RICH FORTUNES No. 34, May. [2/17]

RICHIE RICH MILLIONS No. 83, May. [2/17]

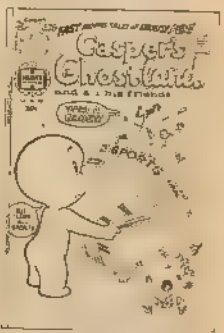
RICHIE RICH DOLLARS AND CENTS No. 79, May. 48 pages for 40¢. [2/17]

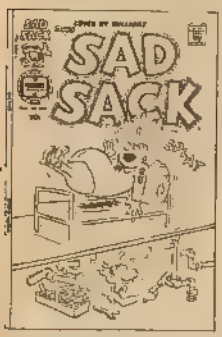
RICHIE RICH AND JACKIE JOKERS No. 21, May. [2/24]

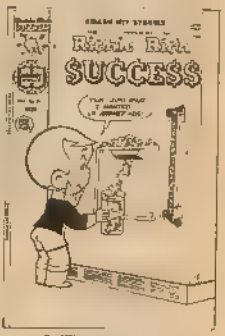
RICHIE RICH RICHES No. 30, May. [2/24]

RICHIE RICH No. 154, May. [2/24]

RICHIE RICH DIAMONDS No. 30, May. [2/24]







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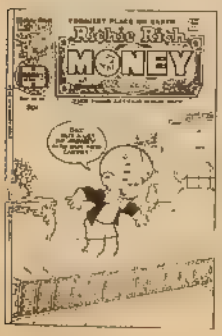

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- ☐ THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #168
- ☐ THE AVENGERS #159
- ☐ THE BLACK PANTHER #3
- ☐ CAPTAIN AMERICA #209
- ☐ CAPTAIN MARVEL #50
- ☐ THE CHAMPIONS #13
- ☐ CONAN THE BARBARIAN #74
- ☐ CRAZY #25
- ☐ DAREDEVIL #145
- ☐ THE DEFENDERS #47
- ☐ THE ETERNALS #11
- ☐ THE FANTASTIC FOUR #182
- ☐ HOWARD THE DUCK #12
- ☐ THE INCREDIBLE HULK #211
- ☐ THE INVADERS #16
- ☐ IRON MAN #98
- ☐ LOGAN'S RUN #5
- ☐ MARVEL SUPER-ACTION #1
- ☐ MARVEL SUPER-HEROES #64
- ☐ MARVEL TALES
- ☐ MARVEL TEAM-UP #57
- ☐ MARVEL TRIPLE ACTION #35
- ☐ MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #27
- ☐ MARVEL'S GREATEST COMICS #70
- ☐ MASTER OF KUNG FU #52
- ☐ MS. MARVEL #5
- ☐ NOVA #9
- ☐ OMEGA THE UNKNOWN #8
- ☐ POWER MAN #43
- ☐ RAWHIDE KID #139
- ☐ RED SONJA #3
- ☐ THE SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #18
- ☐ SGT. FURY #140
- ☐ THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #6
- ☐ THOR #259
- ☐ TOMB OF DRACULA #56
- ☐ 2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY #6
- ☐ WEIRD WONDER TALES #22

National Lampoon

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Warren

- ☐ EERIE #82
- ☐ FAMOUS MONSTERS OF FILMLAND #133
- ☐ VAMPIRELLA #59

DC

- ☐ ACTION COMICS #471
- ☐ ADVENTURE COMICS #451
- ☐ ALL STAR COMICS #66
- ☐ BATMAN #287
- ☐ THE BATMAN FAMILY #11
- ☐ BLACK LIGHTNING #2
- ☐ THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD #134
- ☐ DC SUPER STARS #14 [Villains]
- ☐ DETECTIVE COMICS #469
- ☐ THE FLASH #249
- ☐ FREEDOM FIGHTERS #8
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- ☐ HOUSE OF MYSTERY #252
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- ☐ JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA #142
- ☐ KARATE KID #8
- ☐ OUR FIGHTING FORCES #173
- ☐ RICHARD DRAGON, KUNG FU FIGHTER #15
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- ☐ YOUNG LOVE #125

Gold Key

- ☐ BEAGLE BOYS #34
- ☐ BORIS KARLOFF TALES OF MYSTERY #74
- ☐ BUGS BUNNY #183
- ☐ DAFFY DUCK #107
- ☐ DONALD DUCK #182
- ☐ FAT ALBERT #18
- ☐ GOLD KEY SPOTLIGHT #5 (Crosby)
- ☐ HUEY, DEWEY AND LOUIE #43
- ☐ THE INSPECTOR #14
- ☐ LITTLE MONSTERS #39
- ☐ LOONEY TUNES #13
- ☐ MICKEY MOUSE #170
- ☐ THE PINK PANTHER #42
- ☐ RIPLEY'S BELIEVE IT OR NOT! #69
- ☐ TOM AND JERRY #293
- ☐ TWEETY AND SYLVESTER #68
- ☐ UNCLE SCROOGE #139
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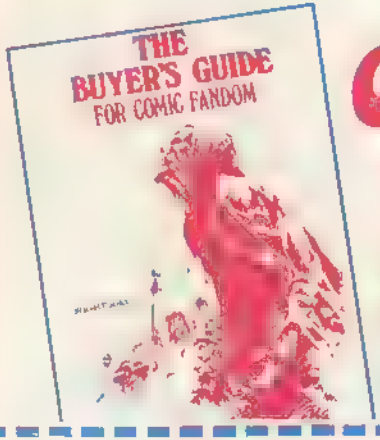

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Archie Coming Comics

JUGHEAD'S JOKES No. 53, April. [1/24]

ARCHIE AND ME No. 91, April. [1/24]

ARCHIE'S JOKEBOOK No. 231, April. [1/24]

BETTY AND VERONICA No. 256, April. [1/24]

PEP No. 324, April. [1/24]

LAUGH No. 313, April. [1/31]

LIFE WITH ARCHIE No. 180, April. [1/31]

REGGIE AND ME No. 95, April. [1/31]

JUGHEAD No. 263, April. [1/31]

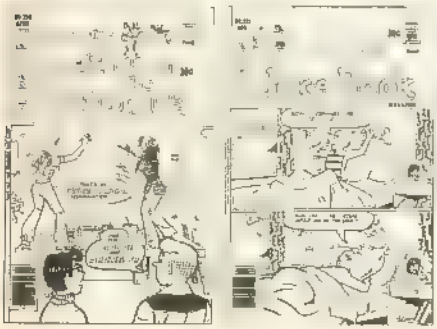
ARCHIE No. 261, April. [1/31]

ARCHIE'S TV LAUGHOUT No. 48, April. [2/1]

LITTLE ARCHIE No. 117, April. [2/1]

BETTY AND ME No. 83, April. [2/1]

EVERYTHING'S ARCHIE No. 55, April. [2/8]



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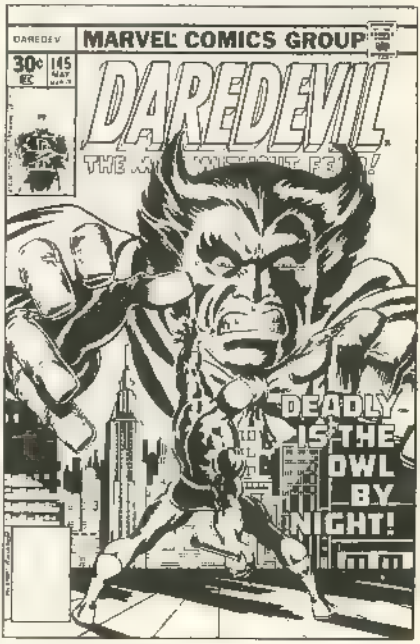
Marvel Coming Comics

DAREDEVIL No. 145, May. A horned blind man battles a horned cripple in "Danger Rides The Bitter Wind" by Jim Shooter, George Tuska and Jim Mooney. The cover is by Al Milgrom and Dave Cockrum. [2/1]



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THE INVADERS No. 16, May. The Invaders search for Union Jack, Spitfire and Dyna-Mite but meet up with Master Man in "Meet Major Victory" by Roy Thomas, Frank Robbins and Frank Springer. The cover is by Jack Kirby and Joe Sinnott. [2/1]

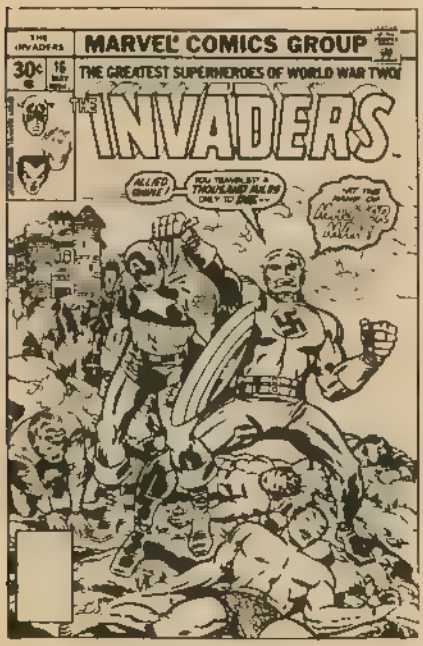
MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE No. 27, May. The Fantastic Four and Jimmy Carter guest-star as The Thing must stop Deathlok, programmed to assassinate the next president at his inauguration. "War In Washington" is by Mary Wolfman, Ron Wilson and Pablo Marcos. The cover is by Jack Kirby and Joe Sinnott. [2/1]

WEIRD WONDER TALES No. 22, May. Reprints in this, the final issue, are: "The World Below" by Stan Lee, Jack Kirby and Dick Ayers; "Silent Ones"

by Joe Kubert; and "And When A Planet Dies" by Stan Lee, Jack Kirby and Dick Ayers. The cover is by Dave Cockrum and Ernie Chan. [2/1]

TOMB OF DRACULA No. 56, May. "The Vampire Conspiracy" is Harold H. Harold's new novel, hot off the presses and it is recounted in this issue: A very heroic Harold battles Dracula and his "master" -- a talking cougar. File it in the Fiction section. Story by Marv Wolfman, art by Gene Colan and Tom Palmer, as is the cover. [2/1]

MARVEL SUPER-HEROES No. 64, May. The Hulk appears in a story from #110, "Umbu, The Unliving" with Ka-Zar and Zabu. Story by Stan Lee, art by Herb Trimpe and John Severin. Cover might be by



Trimpe and Severin if they didn't do a new one. [2/1]

MARVEL SUPER-ACTION No. 1, May. Taking up where MARVEL DOUBLE FEATURE left off, Captain America's origin, plus Black Panther and other guest stars is presented in "This Monster Unmasked" by Stan Lee, Jack Kirby and Syd Shores from CAPTAIN AMERICA #100. Kirby and Shores did the cover. [2/1]

THE SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN No. 18, April. Part three of the planned 60 page sequence, "People Of The Black Circle" by Roy Thomas, John Buscema and Alfredo Alcala is presented. Plus Solomon Kane is the star of "A Rattle Of Bones" by Thomas, and Howie Chaykin. Articles make up the rest of the issue. The cover is by Dan Adkins. [2/1]

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN No. 168, May. The Spidey-Slayer sequence is wrapped and Spider-Man

faces Will-O-The-Wisp in "Murder On The Wind" by Len Wein, Ross Andru and Mike Esposito. The cover is by Ed Hannigan and John Romita. [2/8]

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CAPTAIN AMERICA No. 209. Cap meets his latest, strongest foe, "Arnim Zola, The Bio-Fanatic," plus The Doughboy, the comics' poppin'-freshest char-

acter, is introduced. The interiors and cover are by Jack Kirby and Frank Giacoia. [2/8]

THOR No. 259, May. Asgard's finest battle The Grey Gargoyle -- or do they? "Escape Into Oblivion" is by Len Wein, John Buscema and Tony DeZuniga. The cover is by Buscema and Frank Giacoia. [2/8]

MASTER OF KUNG FU No. 52, May. The triumphant return of Rufus T. Hackstabber highlights "A Night At The 1001 Nights" by Doug Moench, Keith Pollard and Dan Green. The cover is by John Romita, Jr. and Al Milgrom. [2/8]

THE ETERNALS No. 11, May. The Communist Russian Eternals are introduced and one of them is a

KGB agent -- plus a Japanese Eternal debuts, all in "The Russians Are Coming!!" by Jack Kirby and Mike Royer, who did the cover. [2/8]

MARVEL'S GREATEST COMICS No. 70, May. "A House There Was" is reprinted from FANTASTIC FOUR #88 and it's by Stan Lee, Jack Kirby and Joe Sinnott. The cover is by Lee and Sinnott. [2/8]

MARVEL TRIPLE ACTION No. 35, May. From #43 of THE AVENGERS comes "Color Him... The Red Guardian," a story by Roy Thomas, John Buscema and George Roussos. The cover is by Buscema. [2/8]

RED SONJA No. 3, May. The Hyborian Age's best-dressed barbarian stars in "Web Of The Spider-Queen" by Roy Thomas, Clara Noto and Frank Thorne. The cover is by Thorne. [2/8]

MS. MARVEL No. 5, May. Ms. Marvel must stop the Super-Truck but The Vision stands in her way in "The Bridge Of No Return" by Jim Shooter, Chris Claremont, Jim Mooney and Joe Sinnott. The cover is by Ed Hannigan and Joe Sinnott. [2/8]

THE INCREDIBLE HULK No. 211, May. Dr. Druid and the Hulk are helpless puppets of Mongu and the Maha Yogi in "The Monster And The Mystic" by Len Wein, Sal Buscema and Ernie Chan. The cover is by Ed Hannigan and Ernie Chan. [2/15]

THE AVENGERS No. 159, May. Graviton has The Avengers and is blackmailing New York with the floating mountain as Black Panther and Thor return to the ranks in "Siege By Stealth And Storm" by Jim

Shooter, Sal Buscema and Pablo Marcos. The cover is by Jack Kirby and Al Milgrom, most likely. [2/15]

CONAN THE BARBARIAN No. 74, May. This issue, the Barefaced Barbarian must scale "The Black Walls Of Khemi" in a story by Roy Thomas, John Buscema and Ernie Chan. The cover is by Gil Kane and Chan. [2/15]

MARVEL TALES No. 79, May. From SPIDER-MAN #98, "The Goblin's Last Gasp!" is reprinted. It was done by Stan Lee, Gil Kane and Frank Giacoia, and originally ran without Code approval as part of the infamous drug trilogy. The cover was by Gil Kane. [2/15]

THE DEFENDERS No. 47, May. The Moon Knight

INCREDIBLE HULK
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THE INCREDIBLE HULK
IT'S ALMOST OVER! DOCTOR DRUID!
A MOMENT LONGER AND THE HULK WILL BE FREE OF THE MONSTROUS MONGU!!
THE MONSTER AND THE MYSTIC!

guests and everybody piles on Wonder Man in "Night Moves" by Roger Slifer, Dave Kraft, John Warner, Keith Giffen and Klaus Janson, not to mention Bob Seger. The cover is by Ed Hannigan and Joe Sin-

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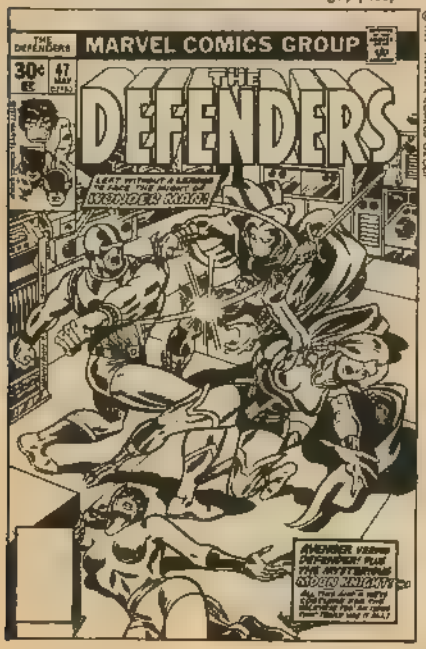
natt. [2/15]

POWER MAN No. 43, May. Cage finds danger in the form of an old foe on the bus to Chicago, plus,



he takes the new identity of Mark Lucas in "Murder Is The Man Called Mace" by Marv Wolfman, Lee Elias and Alex Nino. The cover is by Ron Wilson. [2/15]

NOVA No. 9, May. Nova is trapped in a house of mirrors by Mega Man in "Fear In The Funhouse" by Marv Wolfman, Sal Buscema and Frank Giacoia. The cover is by Ed Hannigan and Frank Giacoia. [2/15]

THE CHAMPIONS No. 13, May. The Champs fight Kama Tham while The Stranger and Black Goliath struggle to keep the universe from being rent asunder. "The Doom Went On Forever" is by Bill Mantlo, John Byrne and Bob Layton. The cover is by Dave Cockrum and Al Milgrom. [2/15]

LOGAN'S RUN No. 5, May. "End-Run" concludes the five part adaptation but the future of this book is still up in the air. Story by David Kraft, art is by George Perez and Klaus Janson. The cover is by Perez and Janson. [2/15]

OMEGA THE UNKNOWN No. 8, May. Nitro returns, Omega says fifteen words and a mysterious stranger lurks in the shadows in "A Blast From The Past" by Roger Stern, Lee Elias and Jim Mooney. The cover is by Gil Kane and Ernie Chan. [2/15]

THE BLACK PANTHER No. 3, May. T'Challa battles some weird people as the Hatch-22 story winds up in "Race Against Time" by Jack Kirby and Mike Royer. The cover is by Kirby and Royer. [2/15]

RAWHIDE KID No. 139, May. More stuff. [2/15]

CRAZY No. 25, May. Did we mention this is a monthly? [2/15]

FANTASTIC FOUR No. 182, May. The FF and The Brute have at it and so do an army of crazed androids in "Enter The Mad Thinker" by Archie Goodwin, Jim Shooter, Len Wein, Bill Mantlo, Sal Buscema and Joe Sinnott. The cover is by Ron Wilson and Joe Sinnott. [2/22]

MARVEL TEAM-UP No. 57, May. Spider-Man and Black Widow ally to stop The Silver Samauri before the CitiCorp Tower collapses on the city in "When Slays The Silver Samauri" by Chris Claremont, Sal Buscema and Mike Esposito. The cover is by Dave Cockrum. [2/15]

IRON MAN No. 98, May. Iron Man wears The Guardsman's uniform and vice versa, as Tony Stark is implicated in a bribery scandal, plus Madame Masque returns in "Sunfire Strikes Again" by Bill Mantlo, George Tuska and Don Perlin. The cover is by Gil Kane and Dave Cockrum. [2/22]

HOWARD THE DUCK No. 12, May. Howard is on trial but the judge favors the Kidney Lady in this issue by Steve Gerber, Gene Colan and Steve Leialoha. The cover is by Colan and Leialoha. [2/15]

THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN No. 6, May. Morbius reappears from the dimension in which he was

lost but now he's under the control of the Empathoid in "Menace is The Man Called Morbius" by Archie Goodwin, Sal Buscema and Mike Esposito. The cover is by Dave Cockrum and John Romita. [2/22]

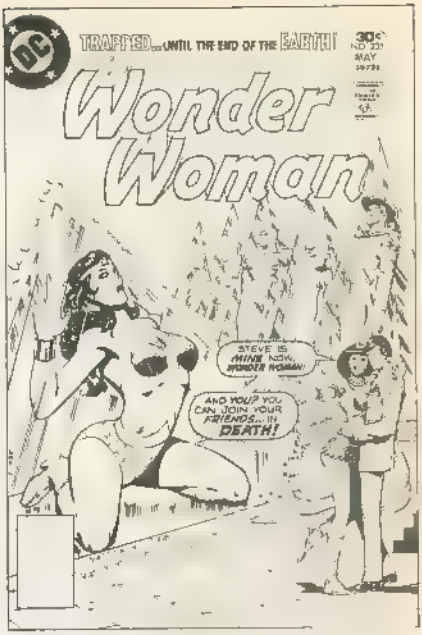
2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY No. 6, May. The adventures of Captain Cosmic, nee Harvey Norton, continue with "Inter-Galactia" by Jack Kirby and Mike Royer. Kirby and Royer did the cover. [2/22]

CAPTAIN MARVEL No. 50, May. The 50th anniversary is celebrated as Captain Marvel and The Avengers scrap with The Super Adoptoid and Rick Jones in "To Begin Anew!" by Scott Edelman, Al Milgrom and Terry Austin. The cover is by Milgrom. [2/22]

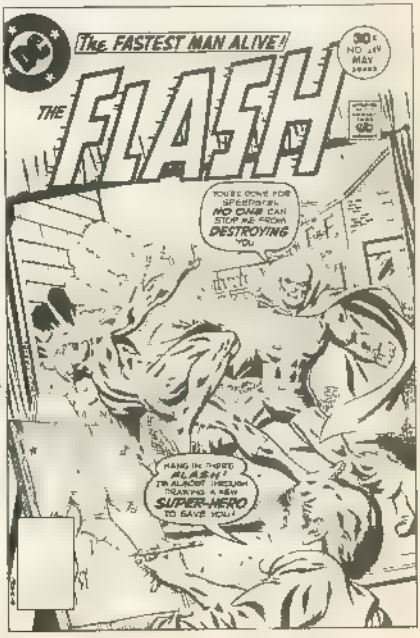
SGT. FURY No. 140, May. From issue #45 comes "The War Lover" by Gary Friedrich and John Severin. The cover is by Severin. [2/22]

LIGHTNING STRIKES TWICE IN THE SENSATIONAL 2nd ISSUE OF...
BLACK LIGHTNING
GO AHEAD AND SHOOT KILLER
IT'LL BE THE LAST MOVE YOU'LL EVER MAKE!
BUCKLER

© 1977 DC COMICS INC.



Captain Comet and Hawkgirl (and maybe Ilya Salkind?) are the stars of "The Tit e Will Give It Away" by Bob Rozakis, Rich Buckler and Bob Layton. The cover is by Buckler and Joe Rubinstein. [2/1]

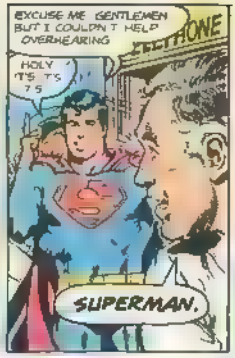

The FASTEST MAN ALIVE!
THE FLASH
YOU'RE DONE FOR SPEEDSTER, NO ONE CAN STOP ME FROM DESTROYING YOU
HANG IN THERE FLASH! I'M ALMOST THROUGH MAKING A NEW SUPER-HERO TO SAVE YOU!

DC Coming C

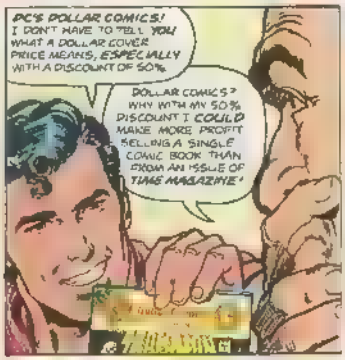
JONAH HEX No. 2, May-June. Jonah meets up with an infamous Mexican bandit in "The Lair Of The Parrot" by Mike Fleisher and Jose Garcia-Lopez. The cover is by Garcia-Lopez. [2/1]

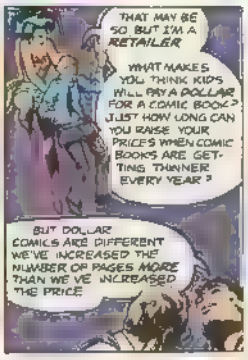
SECRET SOCIETY OF SUPER-VILLAINS No. 7, May. Now twice quarterly. The Wizard, Matter Master and Felix Faust are in Japan to wreck the filming of "Superman" -- and wait'll you see who's ordered it.

WATCH MY PROFITS SKYROCKET? WOW! I'D LIKE TO SEE SUPERMAN SNOW ME HOW ANYONE CAN MAKE REAL MONEY FROM COMICS
C'MON, BOSS. HE AIN'T GOT THE TIME HE'S TOO BUSY SAVING THE WORLD FROM ALIEN INVASIONS!

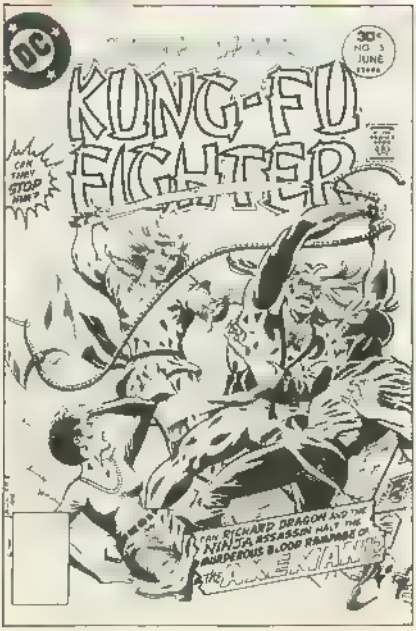


HANG IT ALL SUPERMAN I WON'T MINCE WORDS! THE AVERAGE MAGAZINE SELLS FOR A DOLLAR BUT COMICS
MR WHOLESALER, I'VE GOT THE ANSWER TO YOUR PROBLEM.


DC'S DOLLAR COMICS! I DON'T HAVE TO TELL YOU WHAT A DOLLAR COVER PRICE MEANS, ESPECIALLY WITH A DISCOUNT OF 50%
DOLLAR COMICS? WHY WITH MY 50% DISCOUNT I COULD MAKE MORE PROFIT SELLING A SINGLE COMIC BOOK THAN FROM AN ISSUE OF TIME MAGAZINE!


THAT MAY BE SO BUT I'M A RETAILER
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK KIDS WILL PAY A DOLLAR FOR A COMIC BOOK? JUST HOW LONG CAN YOU RAISE YOUR PRICES WHEN COMIC BOOKS ARE GETTING THINNER EVERY YEAR?
BUT DOLLAR COMICS ARE DIFFERENT WE'VE INCREASED THE NUMBER OF PAGES MORE THAN WE'VE INCREASED THE PRICE

YOUR CUSTOMERS WILL BE GETTING NEARLY FOUR 30 CENT COMICS FOR THE PRICE OF THREE! THERE ARE NO REPRINTS! ALL THE STORIES ARE NEW!


DC
30¢ NO. 5 JUNE
KUNG-FU FIGHTER
CAN THEY STOP HIM?
RICHARD DRAGON AND THE NINJA ASSASSIN HALT THE MURDEROUS BLOOD RAMPAGE OF
© 1977 DC COMICS INC.

KARATE KID No. 8, May-June. The 30th Century hand man faces danger once again in "Pandemonium, Panic and Pulsar" by Barry Jameson, Ric Estrada and Joe Staton. The cover is by Mike Grell. [2/1]

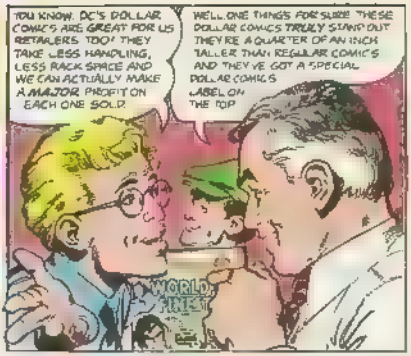
BLACK LIGHTNING No. 2, May. As if he really doesn't have enough trouble fighting the 100, Jeff Pierce now has to deal with the villainous archer named Merlyn and Talia's problem in "Merlyn Means Murder" by Tony Isabella, Trevor Von Eeden and Frank Springer. The cover is by Rich Buckler and Springer. [2/1]

GHOSTS No. 54, May. The stories included in this issue are "The Deadly Games Of Enrico Caruso," "The Phantom Decoy" and "The Feathered Furies Of Death." The cover is by Luis Dominguez. [2/1]

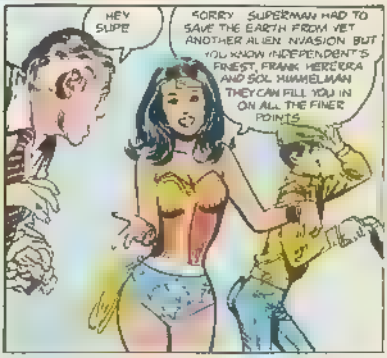
THE FLASH No. 249, May. In order to battle Master Villain, The Flash must get help from "A Hero Named Super" in this issue by Cary Bates, Irv Novick and Frank McLaughlin. The cover is by Rich Buckler and Jack Abel. [2/1]

SGT. ROCK No. 304, May. In another issue edited by Joe Orlando, Rock and Easy conclude their epic battle at "Anzio -- The Bloodbath" by Bob Kanigher, Joe Kubert and Frank Springer. Plus Sam Glanzman contributes a U.S.S. Stevens story. The cover is by Kubert. [2/1]

TO INSURE THEIR SUCCESS, WE'VE STARTED OUT BY TURNING FOUR OF OUR BEST-SELLING TITLES INTO DOLLAR COMICS
AND THOSE FOUR TITLES WILL BE AVAILABLE ONLY AS DOLLAR COMICS


YOU KNOW, DC'S DOLLAR COMICS ARE GREAT FOR US RETAILERS, TOO! THEY TAKE LESS HANDLING, LESS RACK SPACE AND WE CAN ACTUALLY MAKE A MAJOR PROFIT ON EACH ONE SOLD!
WELL, ONE THINGS FOR SURE, THESE DOLLAR COMICS TRULY STAND OUT! THEY'RE A QUARTER OF AN INCH TALLER THAN REGULAR COMICS AND THEY'VE GOT A SPECIAL DOLLAR COMICS LABEL ON THE TOP!

SAAA-AY DC, DOLLAR COMICS CAN REALLY EXPAND MY BUSINESS! ALL THOSE NEWSSTANDS THAT HAVEN'T CARRIED COMICS IN YEARS-- I'D GIVEN UP ON!
BUT DOLLAR COMICS DON'T EVEN NEED COMIC RACKS! THEY CAN GO ON ANY NEWSSTAND RIGHT NEXT TO ANY MAJOR MAGAZINE! DOLLAR COMICS ARE SURE MONEY-MAKERS, BUT THEY DON'T COMPETE WITH OUR OTHER MAGAZINES OUT THERE!
GET IT? EVERY TIME WE SELL A DOLLAR COMIC, IT'S LIKE FOUND MONEY, PURE GRAVY! DOLLAR COMICS CAN ONLY ADD MONEY TO A DEALER'S REGULAR PROFITS!
HE'D BE NUTS NOT TO CARRY THEM!

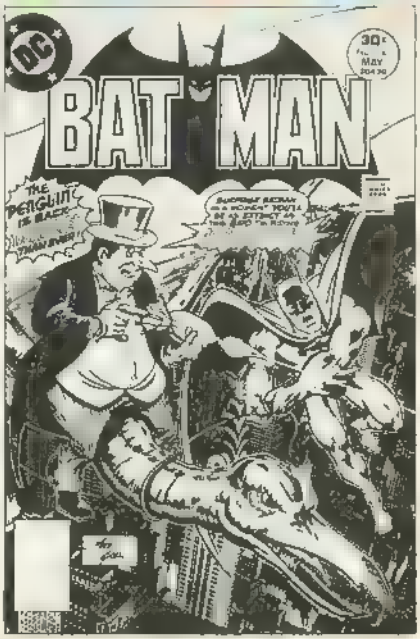

HEY SUPE!
SORRY, SUPERMAN HAD TO SAVE THE EARTH FROM YET ANOTHER ALIEN INVASION! BUT YOU KNOW INDEPENDENT'S FINEST, FRANK HERRERA AND SOL HUMMELMAN THEY CAN FILL YOU IN ON ALL THE FINER POINTS!

JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA No. 142, May. The search is on for the three members of the JLA who didn't respond to the JLA signal during the battle with the Manhunters -- The Atom, Aquaman and The Elongated Man. "Return From Forever" is another 33 pager from Steve Englehart, Dick Dillin and Frank McLaughlin. The cover is by Rich Buckler and Jack Abel. [2/1]

RICHARD DRAGON, KUNG FU FIGHTER No. 15, May-June. Ben and Richard set out to avenge the murder of Ben's girlfriend by the infamous "Axeman" in this issue by Denny O'Neil and Ric Estrada. The cover is by Rich Buckler and Jack Abel. [2/8]

SHAZAM! No. 29, May-June. Dr. Sivana continues his war against Captain Marvel enlisting Aunt Minerva and Ibac as they battle over Niagra Falls in "Ibac Meets Aunt Minerva" by E. Nelson Bridwell and Kurt Schaffenberger with inks by Vince Colletta. The cover is by Schaffenberger. [2/8]

WEIRD WAR TALES No. 53, May. War in South America is explored in "Something To Die For" by Jack Oleck, Emie Chan and Wayne Howard, while WWII is the scene for "Deadly Dominoes" by Jack C. Harris, Juan Ortiz and Tex Blaisdell. The Day After Doomsday installment is by Paul Kupperberg, Jeff Aclin and Bob Wiacek. The cover is by "the late" Jim Aparo. [2/8]



BATMAN No. 287, May. The brolley-toting Penguin returns in this issue's "Batman-Ex... As In Extinct" by David V. Reed, Mike Grell and Bob Wiacek. The cover is by Grell [2/8]

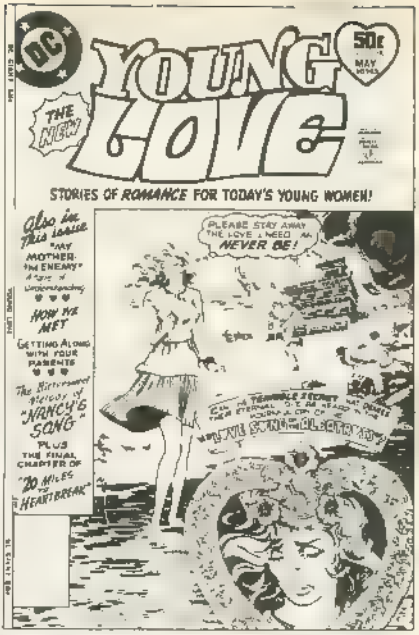
SUPERMAN No. 311, May. Superman plays host to The Flash as they both attempt to save Central City from "The Antibiotic Man" in this issue by Marty Pasko, Curt Swan and Frank Springer. The cover is by Jose Garcia-Lopez and Bob Oksner. [2/8]

YOUNG LOVE No. 125, May. This issue's love vignettes include "Love Song Of The Albatross" by Nick Cuti, Bill Draut and Vince Colletta, "My Mother -- The Enemy" by Bob Rozakis, Jack Abel and Colletta; and "Nancy's Song" by Joyce Jarnevoy, Juan Ortiz and Colletta. The cover is by Walt Simonson. [2/8]

WELCOME BACK, KOTTER No. 4, May. The Sweathogs must contend with a gym teacher named "Tyrannosaurus Rex," in TV Story Editor Mark Evanier's first story for the comic book, drawn by Ric Estrada and Bob Oksner. The cover is by Oksner. [2/8]

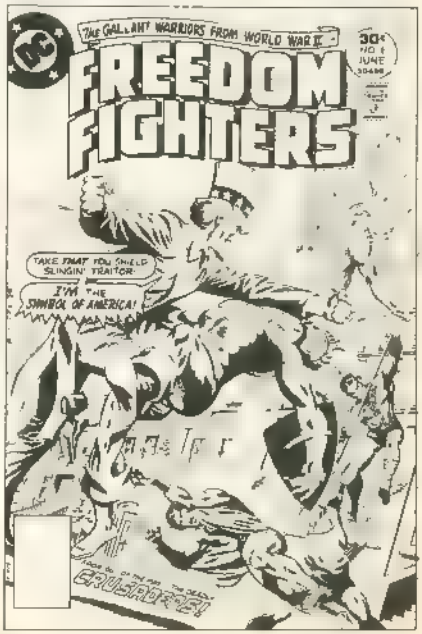
FREEDOM FIGHTERS No. 8, May-June. Out of another-world comic book come DC's version of The Crusaders: Americommando and Rusty, Firebal and Sparky and The Barracuda in "D-Day At Niagra" by Bob Rozakis, Dick Ayers and Jack Abel. The cover is by Rich Buckler and Jack Abel. [2/15]

OUR FIGHTING FORCES No. 173, May-June. The Losers star in "An Appointment With A Direct Hit" by Bob Kanigher and George Evans, while Captain Storm stars in "Bait For A Tin Fish" by Bart Regan


YOUNG LOVE
50¢
THE NEW!
STORIES OF ROMANCE FOR TODAY'S YOUNG WOMEN!
Also in This Issue
"MY MOTHER-THE ENEMY"
HOW WE MET
GETTING ALONG WITH YOUR PARENTS
The Bittersweet Melody of "NANCY'S SONG"
PLUS THE FINAL CHAPTER OF "20 MILES TO HEARTBREAK"
PLEASE STAY AWAY THE LOVE I NEED IS NEVER BE!

and E.R. Cruz. The cover is by Joe Kubert. [2/15]

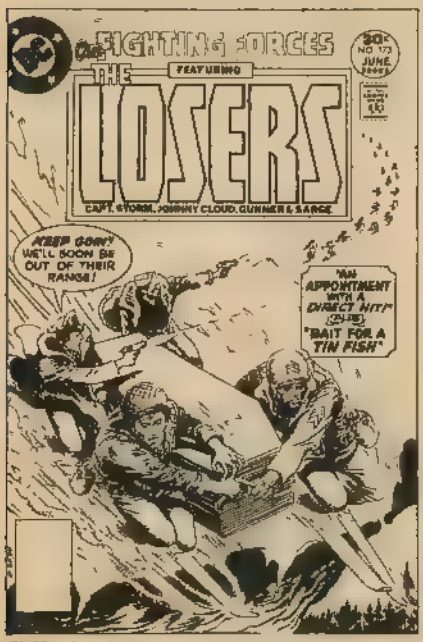
ADVENTURE COMICS No. 451, May-June. That starfish from outer space, Starro, returns to take on


THE GALLANT WARRIORS FROM WORLD WAR II
30¢
FREEDOM FIGHTERS
TAKE THAT YOU SHIELD SLINGIN' TRAITOR!
I'M THE SYMBOL OF AMERICA!

one-twelfth of the JLA, Aquaman, in "The Secret Of The Sinister Abyss" by David Michelinie and Jim Aparo. The cover is by Aparo. [2/15]

THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD No. 134, May. Batman has to kill Green Lantern in "With This Ring" by Bob Haney and Jim Aparo. The cover is by Jim Aparo. [2/15]

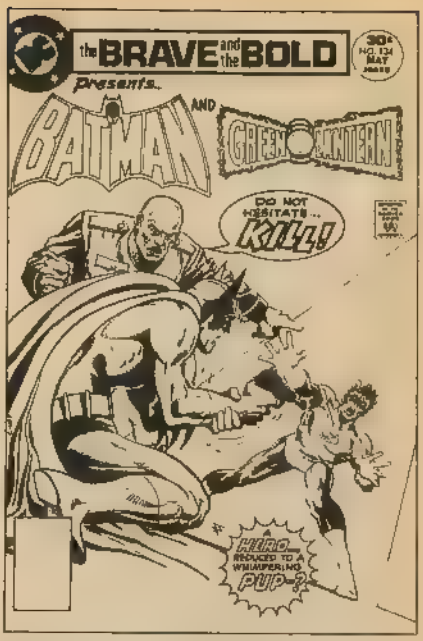
HOUSE OF MYSTERY No. 252, May-June. The second 80 pager includes "A House Called Blafestry" by Bill Kunkel and Alfredo Alcala; "The Man Who Saw Tomorrow" by Jack Oleck and Bill Draut; "Markham's Masterpiece" by David Michelinie, Frank Redondo and Tex Blaisdell; "Grim Choice" by Arnold Drake and Frank Robbins; "Man Killers" by Oleck and Rudy Florese; and "From Beyond The Grave" by Marjorie K. Dorland and Alex Nino. The cover is by Neal Adams. [2/15]


OUR FIGHTING FORCES
THE LOSERS
FEATURING
CAPT. STORM, JOHNNY CLOUD, GUNNER & SARGE
KEEP GOING! WE'LL SOON BE OUT OF THEIR RANGE!
"AN APPOINTMENT WITH A DIRECT HIT!" (SHE) "BAIT FOR A TIN FISH"

SUPERBOY No. 227, May. Either the Legion or the original Brainiac goes time-hopping as they come together in a "War At World's End". In this story by Gerry Conway, Joe Staton and Jack Abel. The cover is by Mike Grell. [2/15]

WONDER WOMAN No. 231, May. The original Wonder Woman continues her WWII adventures in "Puzzle Of The Pyramid Peacemaker" by Marty Pasko, Bob Brown and Vince Colletta. The cover is by Jose Garcia-Lopez. [2/15]

THE SUPERMAN FAMILY No. 183, May-June. Another 80 page giant issue begins with Supergirl in "Shadows Of Phantoms" by Jack Harris, Bob Brown and Vince Colletta; Jimmy Olsen stars in "Short-Circuit A Smuggler" by Jane Arons and Kurt Schaf-



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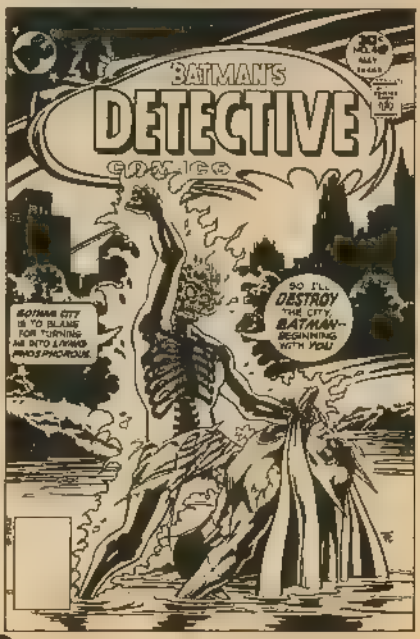
fenberger; Krypto is featured in "Love And The Single Dog" by Bob Toomey, John Calnan and Tex Blaisdell; the Daily Planet's editor appears in "Whatever Happened To Perry White?" by Toomey, Schaf-


BATMAN'S
DETECTIVE
COMICS
GOTHAM CITY IS TO BLAME FOR TURNING ME INTO LIVING PHOSPHORUS.
SO I'LL DESTROY THE CITY, BATMAN-- BEGINNING WITH YOU!

SUPERMAN'S
ACTION
COMICS
TOO BAD SUPERMAN THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN STOP ME FROM WRECKING METROPOLIS
IS TO FIND A WAY TO ARREST A PHANTOM! HA, HA HA!
© 1972 DC COMICS INC.

fenberger and Colletta; Lois Lane stars in a solo shot by Bates, Schaffenberger and Colletta; and Kandor's Van-Zee and Ak-Var become Nightwing and Flamebird in "Death Is A Computer" by Paul Kupperberg, Carl Potts and Al Milgrom. The cover is by Neal Adams. [2/15]

WEIRD WESTERN TALES No. 40, May-June. This issue's SCALPHUNTER story is "Mark Of The Warrior" by Mike Fleisher, Dick Ayers and George Evans. The cover is by Evans. [2/22]

ALL-STAR COMICS No. 66, May-June. The Icicle, Brain Wave, Thinker and The Wizard -- The Injustice Society -- return to wipe out the JSA in "Injustice Strikes Twice" by Paul Levitz, Joe Staton and Bob Layton. The cover is by Rich Buckler and Jack Abel. [2/22]

THE UNEXPECTED No. 179, May. This issue has the following stories: "My Son, The Mortician" by Carl Wessler and Naly Zamora; "Angel In Black" by Bill Dennehy and Abe Ocampo; and "Deathmask For The Living" by George Kashdan and Ruben Yandoc. The cover is by Luis Dominguez. [2/22]

DETECTIVE COMICS No. 469, May. Batman is featured in both stories this issue facing the same foe: "The Origin Of Doctor Phosphorus" and "By Death's Eerie Light" both by Steve Englehart, Walt Simonson and Al Milgrom. The cover is by Jim Aparo. [2/22]

THE WITCHING HOUR No. 71, May. This issue features: "Death Struggle" by Carl Wessler and Abe Ocampo; "Bang, You're Dead, Doctor Fargo" by Wessler and Dan Perlin; and "Baby Doll Was Deadly" by Wessler and Jess Jodlomon. The cover is by Luis Dominguez. [2/22]

ACTION COMICS No. 471, May. Superman can beat anything with substance, but when he comes up against a phantom, he has some problems. "One Of Our Phantoms Is Missing" is by Cary Bates, Curt Swan and Tex Blaisdell. Clark Kent lands the backup spot with "The Long Weekend" by Bill Kunkel, John Calnan and Tex Blaisdell. The cover is by Jose Garcia-Lopez and Bob Oksner. [2/22]

DC SUPER-STARS No. 14, May-June. The Villains' Origins issue leads off with the origin of Super-Gorilla Grodd in "G, As In Green Lantern, Guardians... And Gori Is Grodd" by Bob Rozakis and Rich Buckler. Two Face is the next casebook example in "Double Take" by Jack C. Harris (who else?) and Ed Davis. Also, Hawkman meets Dr. Light in his origin story, "Let There Be Light" by Paul Kupperberg, Dick Ayers and Jack Abel. The text page recounts the origins of Brainiac and The Shark. The cover is by Jim Aparo. [2/22]

THE BATMAN FAMILY No. 11, May-June. TBF goes all-new with this issue which begins with a Batgirl-Robin story in which they are forced to marry by criminals, "Till Death Do Us Part." Bob Rozakis, Curt Swan and Vince Colletta did it. A new Man-Bat adventure called "Man-Bat Over Manhattan" is contributed by Rozakis, Marshall Rogers and Tex Blaisdell, plus Alfred and Commissioner Gordon team-up in "Surprise, Surprise," written by Rozakis and drawn by a surprise artist. The cover is by Jim Aparo. [2/22]

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1,000	for	24.25	29.25	8,000	for	183.20	223.20
2,000	for	47.00	57.00	9,000	for	205.20	250.20
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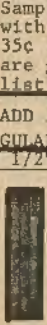
4,000	for	93.20	113.20	15,000	for	337.50	412.50



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